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The Tech

Established 1881

Volume 137, Number 18

Thursday, July 27, 2017

WEATHER, p. 4

THU: 79°F | 66°F
Slight Chance Showers and Thunderstorms

FRI: 82°F | 65°F
Slight Chance Showers

SAT: 72°F | 62°F
Chance Showers

JISOO MIN—THE TECH

Senior House, the oldest undergraduate dorm, is now graduate housing.

Healthy Minds Study survey data informed the decisions about Senior House in 2016

Unbeknownst to participants, residence info was linked to drug use and mental health responses

By Karleigh Moore, Vivian Zhong, and Anshula Gandhi
NEWS EDITORS

The Healthy Minds Study (HMS) survey, administered to students in 2015, linked each participant's responses to their dorm.

The survey included questions about illegal drug use and mental health. However, survey participants were not informed that their residence information would be linked to their responses.

The chancellor confirmed to The Tech in an email last night that the 2015 HMS survey and the 2013 National College Health Assessment "served to reinforce" concerns of illegal drug use in Senior House she announced in 2016. (See the surveys' respective results here and here.)

This was the first time the chancellor confirmed that the HMS survey was used in decisions regarding Senior House, despite several opportunities to clarify the matter in 2016 and periodically since.

In her letter to the editor in this issue of The Tech, the chancellor writes that the HMS was not used in any decisions made "this year." The Senior House turnaround announcement was made in 2016.

Concerns of illegal drug use had also stemmed from "information provided by faculty, staff, and students," according to minutes sent to The Tech yesterday of a June 14, 2016 meeting between Senior House students and administrators. Emails about the minutes showed that the minutes had been written with input from the chancellor.

When the study was conducted in 2015, participants were presented with an informed consent section which was supposed to state exactly what information would be linked to the survey responses.

"Informed consent is designed to ensure study subjects understand what they are being asked to do," according to MIT's COUHES — Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects.

MIT sent an excel file to HMS researchers to be linked with survey responses, Lydia Snover, Director of Institutional Research wrote to The Tech Tuesday. This file included: first name, last name, email address, whether the student was an undergraduate or graduate student, department, school, residence, gender, ethnicity, and birth year.

The first name, last name, and email address of each student was stripped from the file the HMS team at University of Michigan then returned to MIT, in order to preserve confidentiality.

"We strip any identifying information (e.g., name, email) and replace it with a non-identifying study ID (alphanumeric string)," Daniel Eisenberg, principal investigator for the survey at the University of Michigan, wrote to *The Tech* last Monday.

The contents of the excel file MIT sent to the University of Michigan differed somewhat from the variables listed in the consent form that students signed.

That consent section student received listed: name, email address, date of birth, gender, race/ethnicity, citizenship, degree program, year in program, and grade point average.

While GPA, date of birth, and year in program were listed as variables, MIT did not provide the HMS researchers with this information.

"We can infer citizenship and degree program from other variables provided," Snover wrote in Tuesday's email.

This means four additional variables: undergraduate or graduate status, department, school, and residence, were added to be linked to students' responses, but not present on the consent form.

Elizabeth Glaser, a social scientist and parent of an MIT student who took the survey, concerned that MIT had data about her son he hadn't consented to, reached out to Eisenberg.

"[O]ur protocol does allow for linking survey data to data elements

Survey, Page 8

IN SHORT

***The Tech* resumes** its weekly publishing schedule on Aug. 24.

Send news and tips to *news@tech.mit.edu*.

Senior House is now grad housing

Harassment and bullying motivated decision, says Barnhart

By Karleigh Moore and Vivian Zhong
NEWS EDITORS

Senior House will become a graduate residence starting this year, Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88 announced to the dorm's now-former residents in an email last Friday, July 7, citing the need for "significant change." The dorm building, E2, is now officially referred to by its address, 70 Amherst Street.

This marked an abrupt escalation from plans announced last month to repopulate the dorm with a mixture of undergraduate communities, includ-

Grad Housing, Page 8

JISOO MIN—THE TECH

MIT janitor Francisco Rodriguez greets supporters at a rally hosted by service workers union 32BJ SEIU in front of W20 July 11. Originally from El Salvador, Rodriguez was detained for deportation by federal immigration officials after his ICE check-in on July 13. Political figures such as Elizabeth Warren as well as members of MIT's leadership have called for Rodriguez to be released from custody.

COMMUNITY REACTIONS

Senior House is now 70 Amherst St. Reactions include fear, anger, and hate. **NEWS, p. 9**

BEHIND THE SENIOR HOUSE DECISIONS

Students claim the chancellor's drug allegations are unfounded while a student's mother demands apology for misused survey data. **OPINION, p. 3**

BEAVER AT BAT

An interview with Austin Filiere, the first Engineer to be selected in the MLB draft's 8th round. **SPORTS, p. 12**

ORGAN ON A CHIP

Endometriosis research takes the spotlight in our new science column. **SCIENCE, p. 7**

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OPINION OPINION OPINION

WEATHER

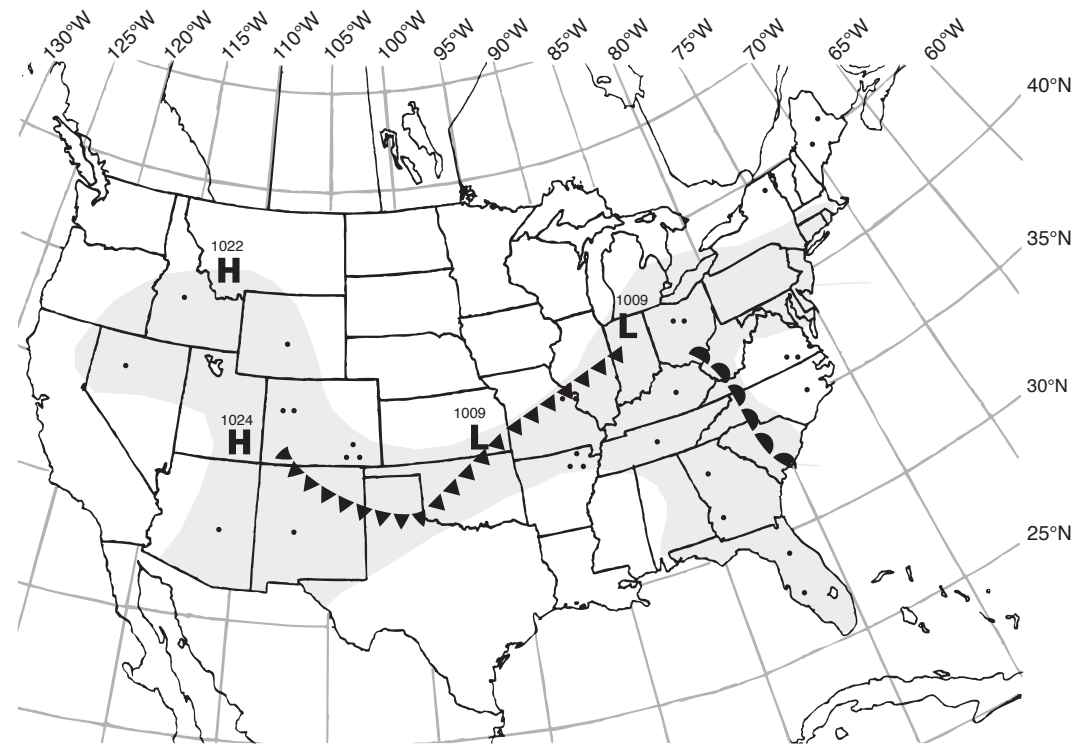
More cloudy weather to end the week

By Jordan Benjamin
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Following the low pressure system and rain earlier this week, a new low pressure system is poised to develop and move off the Mid-Atlantic coast and south of Long Island on Saturday. Prior to its formation, slight chances for showers and thunderstorms will persist locally Thursday and Friday, but no large-scale or particularly organized activity is expected. On Saturday, as the low pressure system tracks south of New England, cloudy skies, cooler temperature, and breezy conditions can be expected, along with possible rain. In the wake of the system, sunny and dry conditions will return, along with near average temperatures. Looking forward at the remainder of the summer, it does not appear that Boston will repeat last summer's record warmth; temperatures should remain near average to slightly above average with rainfall near average as well. Much of the rest of the nation should expect similarly tranquil weather to that Boston will experience over the next several weeks - attention will turn to the tropics as hurricane season heats up, although no storms are expected to form in the immediate future.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly Cloudy. A Slight Chance of Showers and Thunderstorms. High 79°F (26°C).
Tonight: Mostly Cloudy. Low 66°F (19°C).
Tomorrow: A Chance of Showers. High 82°F (28°C).
Saturday: A Chance of Showers. Breezy. High 72°F (22°C).
Sunday: Sunny. High 81°F (27°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, July 27, 2017

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols			Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough		Snow	Rain	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Showers	*	•	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	*	•	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	**	••	
		Heavy	***	•••	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and *The Tech*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Who lost Senior House?

Thousands of hours of student time were lost preparing for, attending, and following up on meetings that were part of the official Turnaround, Probation, and Readmission processes for Senior House, all of which failed. These failures can be attributed to poor leadership. The Turnaround process lacked clear goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria. The Probation process lacked clear goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria. The Readmission process had the vague goal of creating "a new community" but no clear evaluation criteria.

For MIT's top administrators (President, Vice-President, Provost, and Chancellor) to put students through such clearly flawed but time-consuming processes was, at best, amateurish. Due to the gross imbalance of power, students felt compelled to devote considerable time to try to save their community by participating in the administration's ill-defined Turnaround, Probation, and Readmission processes, each of which, lacking clear goals, objectives, or criteria, was doomed to fail.

Affected students were naturally reluctant to raise this issue with the very academic officers who still wield immense power over them, and this hesitation may be exacerbated by the fact that each of the three processes was initiated and terminated unilaterally by the administration, without student input or consultation, accompanied by statements blaming the entire Senior House community. In a rare public account, an MIT Admissions blogger reports having "spent late nights drafting documents to present at these meetings, losing sleep only to have to wake up that next morning for even more 8 a.m. meetings. I missed classes and mandatory recitations... I was exhausted, overcome with guilt, and felt powerless. Hours and hours of meetings, writing, and planning for nothing... once again, with no discussion, the nuclear option was taken..."

To protect these students from further harm, and to protect other and future students from similar harm, the MIT Corporation should fulfill its fiduciary responsibility to investigate how the Institute's senior leadership came to compel the waste of thousands of person-hours of precious MIT student time. The Corporation should then direct corrections to any misaligned programs, policy, or personnel, in order to ensure that MIT upholds its core values, and that students can safely pursue their studies.

James J. Pekar, Ph.D.
S.B. Physics '81,
Senior House resident '77-'81

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Abolishing Senior House not only alienates current residents but also alumni

By closing Senior House, Chancellor Barnhart and other senior administrators have hurt hundreds of current students. They have also alienated thousands of alumni.

Nearly 1,400 alumni, going back to 1958, signed a letter to Barnhart earlier this month expressing their alarm with the administrative actions regarding Senior House. This a letter which was hand-delivered to her office and cc'ed to other senior administration. As of this writing, on Tuesday, July 25, 2017, there has been no reply. A new letter, with thousands of additional signatures from the MIT community, will soon be delivered.

MIT alumni of all generations — from every dormitory — disagree with the administration's collective punishment and closure of Senior House for the misdeeds of a small handful of students. Many of us believe that Senior House's unique culture was sadly mischaracterized and misunderstood throughout this process.

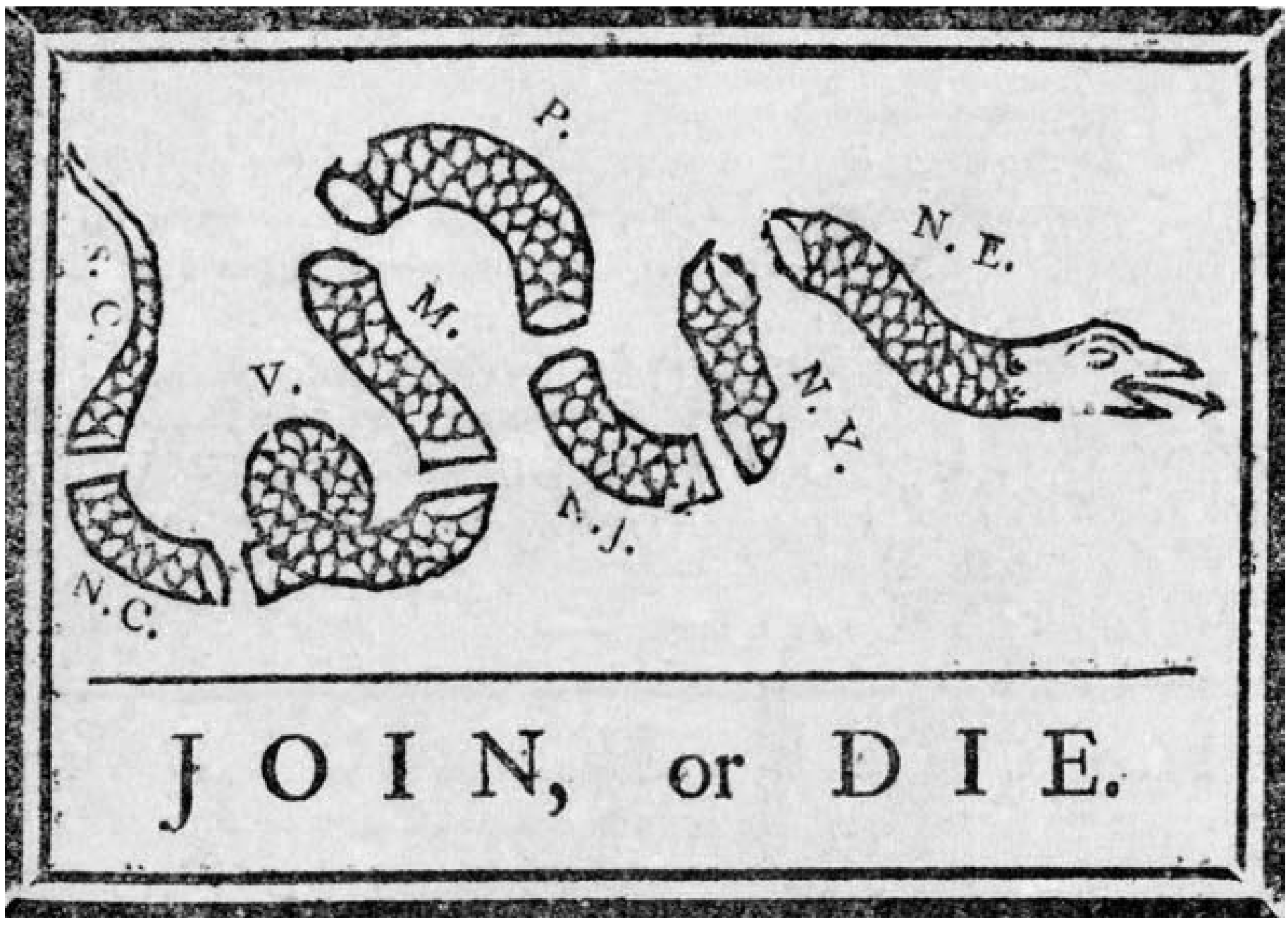
Alumni should be the Institute's closest allies. They represent the best of MIT values. They are not the enemy. In addition to donating money to the Institute, these alumni interview prospective undergraduates, mentor MIT graduates, and participate in extended alumni networks in other cities and countries. Many are quitting, because they view not only the decision to close Senior House, but also the secretive and top-down manner in which the decision was made, as anathema to the MIT they love.

Geeta Dayal '01

Want to draw graphics that engage, provoke, and speak to the MIT community?

The Tech is looking for editorial cartoonists.

join@tech.mit.edu



ARTS ARTS ARTS

Organ on a chip: a 3D model for studying endometriosis

By Theresa Machemer
GUEST COLUMNIST

The MIT Center for Gynepathology Research (CGR) launched in 2009 seeking to improve current understanding of conditions that predominantly affect women, often focused on reproductive health. The Center, co-led by scientific director Linda Griffith, PhD, of the MIT Bioengineering department, and Keith Isaacson, MD, of Harvard Medical School, is unique in its approach because researchers apply tools from bioengineering, such as tissue engineering, to study a topic previously confined to traditional methods of biological analysis.

For example, to improve understanding of the ways hormones impact the tissue that lines the uterus, bioengineering PhD student Christi Cook has created a 3D tissue culturing system that supports distinct layers of different cell types, sourced from endometrial biopsies, that can be exposed to hormones such as estrogen and progesterone, in a way that mimics the month-long menstrual cycle. "My goal has been to develop better in vitro model systems so that we can understand some of the endometrial pathologies that women face," Cook said. "It's taken a couple years to develop the model system, and we're now beginning to understand and use them to study things like inflammation and how that impacts hormone responsiveness."

Many gynepathological conditions are characterized by changes in the uterine cells' hormone responsiveness, including adenomyosis, infertility, leiomyoma, and endometriosis. Endometriosis, a primary focus of CGR, affects about 10% of women and occurs when cells similar to the endometrium, the innermost lining of the uterus, grow elsewhere in the body, usually around the pelvic and abdominal areas. Not all women with this condition show symptoms, but those who do can experience debilitating chronic pain.

Currently, treatments for endometriosis begin with a first line treatment of oral contraceptives, but not every patient can tolerate them and they aren't effective for every patient. If oral contraceptives are ineffective or aren't an option, the next step would be hormone antagonists, which block cells' ability to sense hormones. "These can have nasty side effects — it's like a fake menopause, so this isn't ideal," Cook said. Another option for endometriosis patients is surgery to remove the misplaced endometrial cells that characterize endometriosis, but that is also not entirely effective. "There's no perfect way to treat this disease right now, what works for someone might not work for someone else and we still don't know why," Cook said.

CGR also has a number of collaborations around MIT, including running an IAP class on endometriosis and working with the MIT iGEM team in 2016 as they created a synthetic biology tool for diagnosing endometriosis. "[Linda Griffith] is definitely excited to talk to any researcher on campus who has a potential interest in seeing what sorts of unique projects and ideas can come out of pairing together unusual departments," Cook said.

One such collaboration is between CGR and CSAIL to develop an app that could be launched in Isaacson's clinic so patients can track the day-to-day impact of their disease, endometriosis or otherwise. CGR would then collect and analyze this data, comparing it to the patient biopsies they have in the lab. Currently, endometriosis is classified based on the size of the misplaced cellular growths, but the severity of a patient's symptoms don't necessarily match the apparent severity of the disease stage. "Maybe there's different types of endometriosis, but right now we're lumping it as one single disease," Cook suggested. If there turn out to be subsets of day-to-day symptoms of endometriosis, this could lead research into new classifications of endometriosis.

Got science?
We're looking for writers to share their STEM-related passions and journalists to investigate the behind-the-scenes work of MIT labs.
Email science@tech.mit.edu

Students now more vigilant, express reluctance to take future surveys

Survey, from Page 1

provided by the institution (such as age and gender)," Eisenberg wrote. These data elements are then stated in the informed consent.

"We failed to customize that list of data elements in the informed consent to reflect the list used by MIT," Eisenberg wrote in a July 14 correspondence to Glaser that Glaser then forwarded to The Tech.

"MIT could have used residence data, given that it was linked to the survey data. I don't know for sure if and how they actually did that analysis," Eisenberg wrote in a July 17 email to The Tech.

MIT's IR office received the data file containing survey results from the University of Michigan July 2015, Snover wrote to The Tech yesterday.

Snover previously wrote in Tuesday's email that "Prior to knowing the error in the consent form, the Chancellor's Office did conduct some limited analysis but they did not publish any data based on residence hall."

"Once MIT learned of the error in the consent form, no offices conducted any analysis of the HMS data based on dorm/residence," Snover added.

"When MIT contacted the HMS researchers about participating in the study, MIT requested that the survey be customized to ask survey respondents to identify their on campus address," Snover wrote in the same email.

However, HMS researchers "declined to include a customized question regarding address, but informed MIT that it could provide the residence hall data, along with all other administrative data, in the data file that MIT sent to HMS researchers for the survey invitees."

According to Eisenberg, the University of Michigan's Institutional Review Board (IRB) found out about this discrepancy during the summer 2016 and notified MIT. The HMS team has since taken precautions to ensure this type of error does not occur in the future.

Asked if it is unethical to continue to use this data, Eisenberg wrote that he "would agree that it's not appropriate to continue using the data that wasn't mentioned in the consent" and said that once his team realized "the error, [they] removed the information from [their] copy of the data set."

"I do not believe that the problem with the consent form invalidates the survey or rises to the level of any ethical breach as the error appears to be unintentional," Leigh Firn, the COUHES chairman, wrote to The Tech Tuesday.

"MIT refrained from doing anything with the data once it discovered the problem; no identifying information was provided in connection with the survey responses; and most importantly, the individual survey responses have been treated as confidential and remain so," Firn wrote.

Many students responded to this error in the informed consent with a reluctance to take MIT surveys in the future.

"Looks like they lied and it would be bad practice/bad character to use the data," Travis Libsack '18 wrote in an email to The Tech Tuesday. "Senior House 2k16 all over again."

"I am, quite frankly, shocked and extremely angry that this happened, especially at MIT. The lack of informed consent on the part of students taking the survey, as well as the unethical way the results were used, is abhorrent," said Madeleine Haworth '19 in an email to The Tech Wednesday.

"To my knowledge MIT has made no official comment or apology related to this matter — which is, to me, a clear sign that research integrity isn't a priority when the administration wants to use questionably-obtained 'data' against students," Haworth added.

"Suffice it to say that I won't be taking part in many Institute surveys or studies in the future if I can avoid it," Haworth wrote.

Madison Evans '18 wrote to The Tech Wednesday that she wasn't sure if she would have thought that her survey results being linked to her house would have "been as concerning to [her] at the time."

"But I do know in the future, I'd like to read those forms for future surveys. I may forget, like a lot of forms. But it's important to know what's happening with the information I give out," Evans wrote.

Plans of repopulation abandoned: Senior House is now 70 Amherst Street

Grad Housing, from Page 1

ing the freshmen-based Pilot 2021 program. The reason for this, Barnhart wrote, was that senior administrators "no longer believe that first-year and continuing students living in Senior House next year will be able to define for themselves their own community values and living experience."

Barnhart's assertion in the same email that last month's decision had been met with "misinformation, denials, and responses" that violated MIT values drew enormous backlash from the student body, many of whom concluded that the July 7 decision was punishment for all dissenting student reactions to the repopulation plans.

> **Barnhart later clarified to The Tech in an interview Monday and to the undergraduate body in an email Tuesday that she did not consider student protest to be against MIT values.**

Barnhart later clarified to The Tech in an interview Monday and to the undergraduate body in an email Tuesday that she did not consider student protest to be against MIT values. She specified that theses violation were actions such as harassment of potential residents by former residents and alumni, as well as the bullying of students, including Senior House residents, who spoke up in defense of the administration's decisions.

This clarification led to criticisms that the administration was engaging in collective punishment.

"We are disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have been the ones to set the narrative for the MIT administration, rather than the efforts of so many more individuals in the Senior House community and MIT community at large who dedicated themselves to moving forward in a positive direction over the past year," Allie Stanton '18, the Dormitory Council vice president wrote in an email on behalf of herself and DormCon president Yuge Ji '18 to the pilot-2021 mailing list.

Barnhart refused to comment on whether she believed that it was only a minority of Senior House residents who engaged in behavior deemed inappropriate and pressuring, saying that the numbers do not matter if "the end result is that students living in Senior House wouldn't have a good experience."

Barnhart acknowledged that the email she sent on Friday was "terse and didn't have a lot of details," saying that it "was on purpose" because the letter was written to Senior House students with whom she had been talking already working and communicating with verbally. Her "assumption" was that because she had been "working together and communicating verbally," with Senior House students, they would understand what the email meant.

Undergraduate Association, DormCon, and Senior House leadership met with Barnhart June 23 and June 26, but how much of those discussions was communicated to the dorm community at large is unclear.

The chancellor said she later realized that because this decision affects students outside of Senior House, she should have notified all undergraduates.

"I think that I have to take some responsibility for the confusion that's out there, and I'm working to try and help clarify that," Barnhart said in a call with The Tech Tuesday evening. The chancellor emailed all undergraduates later that night with a formal announcement of the changes to Senior House and more details surrounding the decision.

The initial July 7 email seemed "incredibly rushed" compared to normal communications from the chancellor, Lillian Chin '17 wrote in an email to The Tech. Chin was previously a member of the UA Committee on Student-Admin Collaboration, but no longer has ties to student government.

Clarification that it was actions such as alumni harassment that was against MIT values would have "dampened a lot of fears," Chin wrote.

The "MIT values" that Barnhart referenced in her email were threefold. The chancellor said that MIT believes in "open and respectful discourse" such that individuals can "speak what they believe without retaliation and without being vilified;" that discussions "should be based on facts and not rumors and deliberate misrepresentations;" and that "students should be able to define their own community that is and living experience without outsiders exerting pressure and trying to control their decisions."

When asked during Monday's interview to respond to criticisms that Pilot 2021 was itself an attempt to define a living experience, the chancellor replied that Pilot 2021 was not about defining a culture, rather providing opportunities for students.

> **Barnhart refused to comment on whether she believed that it was only a minority of Senior House residents who engaged in behavior deemed inappropriate and pressuring, saying that the numbers do not matter if "the end result is that students living in Senior House wouldn't have a good experience."**

The Tech has previously reported that much of the programming of Pilot 2021 was based on either freshman-oriented programs that were successful in other MIT dorms or programs that students have indicated interest in on campus surveys. Participation in the programming, including the meal kits and wellness programs, would have been optional.

"Some students and some alumni definitely did not want to accept" the decisions announced earlier this June and "that change was necessary," the chancellor said.

"Misinformation, denials, and responses"

The chancellor insisted that student protests such as the sleep-in which occurred outside the president's office and the protest which occurred outside the chancellor's office were not part of the reactions that violated MIT values, though many believed otherwise after the July 7 email.

Barnhart mentioned that she had expected protests.

"We believe it's a healthy thing to do," Barnhart said, adding that her office arranged to send food to the sleep-in.

Some individuals who spoke out about problems in the Senior House community were attacked and "in some cases bullied," the chancellor said.

The chancellor told The Tech that someone had taken out a paid Google ad titled 'False Research References' "that was written to try to discredit the integrity and research of a junior faculty member," Michael Short, who penned a June letter to the editor speaking in favor of Pilot 2021.

Professor Short wrote to The Tech that he has not personally seen the ads, but that he heard they were "unnecessarily hurtful, and rather childish."

The ad in question linked to a website, guanolog.com, which now redirects to fdsal.com, a site "owned and operated" by Senior House alum John Hinsdale '86, according to its about page. The website is devoted to investigating alleged unethical use of data by the MIT administration in Senior House decisions.

The ad also provided the email address i-lived-in-senior-house@shamster.com as contact information. A similar address, i-lived-at-senior-house@shamster.com, is included in Hinsdale's contact information on fdsal.com. The contact page on shamster.com indicates that it too is "owned and operated" by Hinsdale. Hinsdale did not immediately respond to The Tech's request for comment.

> **She emphasized that the transition to graduate housing is not intended as a punitive measure against those who engaged in the attacks and who violated MIT values.**

Hinsdale's site fdsal.com appeared to have been down after the publication of this article on July 14. On July 15, the site appears to work.

Apart from this ad, the chancellor did not go into detail about specific instances of attacks, because she didn't want to "call out students." She did not discuss particular cases of students and alumni refusing to accept recent decisions. She also did not discuss what specifically made administrators believe that the pressure for new residents to adopt Senior House culture would persist despite ongoing discussions with student leaders.

She emphasized that the transition to graduate housing is not intended as a punitive measure against those who engaged in the attacks and who violated MIT values.

Incentives offered for undergraduates to engage in "dorm swap"

Rising juniors and seniors who are 21 or older will have the opportunity to live in graduate housing in order to potentially offset crowding caused by removing E2 from the undergraduate housing system. There are several incentives available to undergraduate students who choose to live in graduate housing.

Current seniors planning to pursue a graduate degree at MIT would be guaranteed housing in a graduate dorm for their first year.

Undergraduates who opt to live in a graduate dorm will be able to choose between a $3,000 housing credit which will be applied to their Bursar's bill split between spring and fall semesters, or a free Basic 10 meal plan, which would otherwise costs $3,410 for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The chancellor told The Tech that all but one Senior House student got their first or second alternative housing choice for the coming year.

The first-year housing lottery results were originally planned to be released July 14, but due to these recent changes, results will be announced August 1, Jennifer Hapgood-White, associate director of housing assignments wrote in an email to freshmen.

Senior House head of house Jay Scheib asked to step down following the June 12 announcement about the depopulation of Senior House and Pilot 2021, but before the July 7 decision. According the chancellor, Schieb felt it was the "right time to step down" given the imminent changes to Senior House.

A former Senior House GRT informed the pilot-2021 mailing list that Scheib is in London this summer debuting a new musical. He has not, according to residents, issued any statement to Senior House regarding either decision. Associate head of house Kristen Covino will become the new head of house this fall. Neither Scheib nor Covino have responded to The Tech's requests for comment.

Anshula Gandhi contributed reporting.

Senior House no more: community reacts with disappointment, fear, and anger

Miscommunication and secrecy plague student-admin interactions

By Karleigh Moore and Vivian Zhong
NEWS EDITOR

The decision to turn Senior House into a graduate dormitory, announced last Friday by Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88 to the Senior House community, has been met with condemnation from vocal MIT community members.

As was the case after the earlier June decisions to repopulate the dorm, the vagueness of the initial communication from the administration gave rise to rampant speculation and rumors from students and alumni alike.

Days later, the chancellor and student leaders individually sent lengthy emails to paint a clearer picture of the situation. How effective these follow-ups will be in influencing future conversation on the issue remains to be seen.

Student, alumni, and community responses

> **Websites owned by another Senior House alum, John Hinsdale '86, are linked to the attack ad put out against MIT Professor Michael Short....The chancellor said that the ad was an example of a violation of MIT values.**

The Tech has seen emails from students, alumni, and community members since the June announcements ranging from disappointment to vitriol. Some students and alumni brainstormed how to move forward in a positive way. Others questioned the validity of data used in previous decisions regarding Senior House, how much information they should share with the press, and discussed how to dissuade undergraduates, and later, graduate students, from living in E2 next year, in order to preserve Senior House culture.

The Tech was forwarded an email from an alumnus who claimed that Barnhart needed to be "eliminated from the Institute" and asked "How can we make sure she never has a job in education for the rest of her miserable life?"

"[M]y father has earmarked a large amount of money through charitable remainder trusts for MIT, and I'm going to work with him to make sure they never see a penny so long as Cynthia Barnhart has a job," the alum wrote.

J. Maunsell '19, co-president of Senior House, responded to this email discouraging the amount of "vitriol" that has been "directed personally" at Barnhart for recent decisions and emphasized that these decisions were made jointly by senior leadership which includes the chancellor, provost, president, and vice president of research. Barnhart asserted that the decisions related to Senior House were made collectively by the senior leadership at MIT.

Maunsell's email was met with another scathing response from another alumnus who suggested that Barnhart is not qualified for her job and doubted that recent decisions were made in conjunction with administrators other than the chancellor.

It is unclear if this type of distrust and discourse contributed to administrators' belief that Senior House community members would not accept decisions and would not allow new residents to define their own communities, but The Tech has seen similar sentiments and rhetoric present in other emails on Senior House-related mailing lists around all major announcements regarding Senior House since the start of the turnaround last June.

Websites owned by another Senior House alum, John Hinsdale '86, are linked to the attack ad put out against MIT Professor Michael Short who submitted a letter to The Tech supporting Pilot 2021. Hinsdale has not responded to requests for comment, and whether he bought the ad is unknown.

The chancellor said that the ad was an example of a violation of MIT values and an example of a reaction to Pilot 2021 and the repopulation of Senior House that led administrators to believe that new residents faced undue pressure, which ultimately led to the decision to remove undergrads from E2.

Barnhart said that some students and alumni "definitely exerted pressure and tried to control the decisions of New House students and first-year students."

In a joint letter to undergraduates from the UA and DormCon, Allie Stanton '18, the vice president of DormCon, wrote that "former Senior House residents and alumni were in extensive contact with soon-to-be Senior House freshmen through a private Facebook group" and this was cited by the chancellor as a source of external pressure on new residents.

"There was a fear that residents of the dorm would be expected to do things such as add former Senior House residents and alumni to guest lists, help facilitate events Senior House formerly held, and otherwise work to preserve a culture that they did not necessarily identify with," Stanton wrote.

"We would like to emphasize that the administration's main concern was that outside pressure on residents, particularly if someone was in disagreement, would be inappropriate and would not result in a positive residential experience," Stanton wrote.

The Tech has seen emails written by Senior House students shortly after Pilot 2021 was announced that called on students to "infiltrate" the Pilot 2021 program in order to preserve Senior House culture.

Other students, including Stanton, discouraged the use of the word "infiltrating" and instead encouraged more positive engagement with the program. Tesla Wells '20, an East Campus resident who headed the keep-haus-a-home movement, also discouraged the use of the word.

Wells stated in an email describing the movement that its goals were to "focus on preserving the SH culture at Haus and on the East Side through the duration of new period at Haus...by emphasizing and communicating the importance of Senior Haus's core values (respecting differences, taking care of each other, personal freedom/communal responsibility) to new residents."

Barnhart refused to comment on whether this and other similar individual initiatives constituted part of the external pressure that might prevent new residents from forming their own culture.

"I know a lot of you won't believe me when I say this, but there really is no conspiracy to take down the east side or whitewash any of the undergrad dorms," Stanton wrote in a separate email to a pilot-2021 list on behalf of herself and DormCon President Yuge Ji '18. "We are also disappointed that the administration could not envision a more constructive solution."

In June, students and alumni created a parody site, pilot2021.com, which featured a video of President Reif relating students to world-changing "products" of MIT and Apple CEO Tim Cook's 2017 commencement addresses spliced with footage of yoga and, meal kits, and students as products. The website advertised the "sale" of MIT students, seemingly insinuating that Pilot 2021 was a ploy to help MIT students be more marketable to industry employers.

Another protest site is Save Senior House at saveseniorhouse.mit.edu. The website features a list of demands, including to undo the graduate housing decision and to "let the majority of SH residents live in Senior House by abolishing the application process."

The website also lists a demand that "all decisions made about the future of Senior House, or any other living group, should be done with the knowledge, input, and consent of the residents."

Aside from a Cambridge Day article, most news outlets, including those that reported on the initial announcement of Pilot 2021, have thus far remained silent on the newest decision regarding Senior House.

> **Barnhart said that some students and alumni "definitely exerted pressure and tried to control the decisions of New House students and first-year students."**

In all her communications with The Tech, Barnhart has expressed a reluctance to revisit old debates and controversies about the nature of the "dangerous behavior" that violated the turnaround and concerns about the use of data in making housing decisions, instead emphasizing her desire to focus on supporting students going forward.

Anna Kazlauskus '19, the president of G@MIT, confirmed that Barnhart and Nelson had met with leaders of LGBTQ groups on campus, but noted that it would be difficult to recreate the organically formed LGBTQ space that Senior House provided.

> **Anna Kazlauskus '19, the president of G@MIT, confirmed that Barnhart and Nelson had met with leaders of LGBTQ groups on campus, but noted that it would be difficult to recreate the organically formed LGBTQ space that Senior House provided.**

Student leadership involvement and miscommunications

Barnhart told The Tech on Monday that DormCon, the UA, and Senior House student leaders had been made aware of the possibility of changing E2 into a graduate residence approximately two weeks before the July 7 announcement.

She later clarified in a call Tuesday that she had voiced this possibility, in addition to her concerns that new residents were being pressured to maintain Senior House culture by former residents and alumni, in a June 23 meeting. She and Suzy Nelson, vice president of student life, met with Maunsell, Ji, Stanton, UA President Sarah Melvin '18, UA Vice President Alexa Martin '19, and former Senior House resident Jacob Higgins '19, in addition to another former Senior House resident and a Senior House alum.

This version of events was disputed by some of the student leaders present at the meeting, however.

Melvin told *The Tech* that she found out about this decision a few hours before the announcement email was sent and did not have input in this decision nor prior knowledge that it was being considered.

"According to our notes and my personal memory, Cindy [Barnhart] never used the phrase graduate housing in any of our meetings before Friday," Melvin wrote in an email to The Tech, although "[the chancellor] did briefly mention that maybe students shouldn't live in the building," but Melvin said she "interpreted this as an expression of [the chancellor's] frustration with the external pressure in response to the Pilot 2021 decision."

But Higgins recalled in an email to The Tech that "the Chancellor did say that worst-case scenario, they might have to turn SH into 'grad housing,' using the phrase." He further speculated that the chancellor may have issued the ultimatum in response to pressure from the senior administrative team.

Barnhart herself could not definitely confirm during the Tuesday call whether or not she had used the exact phrase. In a later email she wrote that she conferred with Ji, and that both agreed "that graduate housing in Senior House was brought up but not the focus of the meeting," and that "students didn't seriously consider it as an option."

"Regardless, we weren't given the chance to respond to this 'proposed' change in housing plans and weren't asked for feedback on any such change," Melvin wrote in her email.

The general amnesia regarding the discussion of such a contentious topic – turning the entire dorm into grad housing – is nonetheless troubling. The meeting was not recorded.

And the chancellor voiced her agreement when The Tech pointed out that it's concerning that so many students on the call were on completely different pages from the administration and from each other.

Students who acted independently of the negotiations between student leaders and administrators may not have recognized that these negotiations were taking place. Some on the pilot-2021 mailing list asked if student government was even operating in the summer.

A student on the pilot-2021 list suggested that it was time to start compromising. Other students and a former Senior House GRT replied that compromise had been occurring the entire time, pointing out that compromising is a major role of the student leaders who had been meeting with administrators on behalf of their constituents.

The future of student-admin relations

In an email to *The Tech*, Lillian Chin '17 wrote that when students place their trust in elected leaders, they are also expecting that the administration will include those leaders in important decisions. Chin was previously a member of the UA Committee on Student-Admin Collaboration, but no longer has ties to student government.

Others agree: a petition draft sent to pilot-2021 yesterday evening by Katherine Paseman '18 included among its demands that all decisions which affect the MIT undergraduate community be approved by a vote from the UA and other student representation bodies. The updated version of the petition, however, which can be found here, no longer includes this demand.

But Barnhart made a comment in Monday's interview with The Tech that casts doubt on the already low likelihood that the administration will acquiesce to such a demand.

Elements of "shared governance in our dormitory system" did not apply in cases like the situation surrounding Senior House, which constitutes a "reset," Barnhart said.

Ultimately, insufficient communication between administration, student leaders, and the student body since the announcement of the turnaround has made fact-based discussion and compromise difficult from the start. Administration and student leaders have both cited a firm dedication to protecting students' privacy as the reason for secrecy. But the resulting information void has led, as Chin pointed out, to an exacerbation of students' mistrust of administrative action.

Anshula Gandhi contributed reporting.

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Solution to Fun, Fun, Fun

from page 11

■	L	A	M	E	■	S	C	O	T	■
R	I	V	A	L	■	A	L	S	O	■
A	M	I	G	O	■	G	O	L	D	■
H	A	V	I	N	G	A	G	O	O	D
■	■	■	G	U	S	■	■	L	O	S
H	I	N	T	A	T	■	T	W	I	G
A	D	I	E	T	■	S	E	A	S	■
W	E	L	L	E	N	T	E	R	T	A
K	A	L	E	■	A	U	N	T	■	T
S	L	Y	■	P	U	N	Y	■	C	H
■	■	■	C	A	T	■	■	P	A	L
E	N	J	O	Y	I	N	G	O	N	E
L	O	U	D	■	C	O	O	K	■	T
M	A	N	E	■	A	N	N	E	■	I
S	H	E	D	■	L	E	G	S	■	C

A	M	E	■	S	C	O	T	■	S	W	A	M
I	V	A	L	■	A	L	S	O	■	W	I	D	E
I	G	O	■	G	O	L	D	■	A	F	A	R
N	G	A	G	O	O	D	T	I	M	E	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
A	T	■	T	W	I	G	■	V	E	T	■	■
T	■	S	E	A	S	■	D	E	L	I	■	■
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■	A	U	N	T	■	T	R	U	C	E	■	■
■	P	U	N	Y	■	C	H	E	S	T	S	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
O	Y	I	N	G	O	N	E	S	E	L	F	■
O	K	■	T	A	B	O	O	■	■	■	■	■
N	E	■	A	N	N	E	■	I	N	B	O	X
D	■	L	E	G	S	■	C	E	S	T	■	■

Solution to Grads

from page 10

6	5	8	1	3	4	7	2	9
4	7	2	8	6	9	1	5	3
1	3	9	5	7	2	4	8	6
9	2	3	7	8	1	5	6	4
5	4	1	9	2	6	8	3	7
7	8	6	4	5	3	2	9	1
2	9	7	6	1	8	3	4	5
8	1	4	3	9	5	6	7	2
3	6	5	2	4	7	9	1	8

Solution to Undergrads

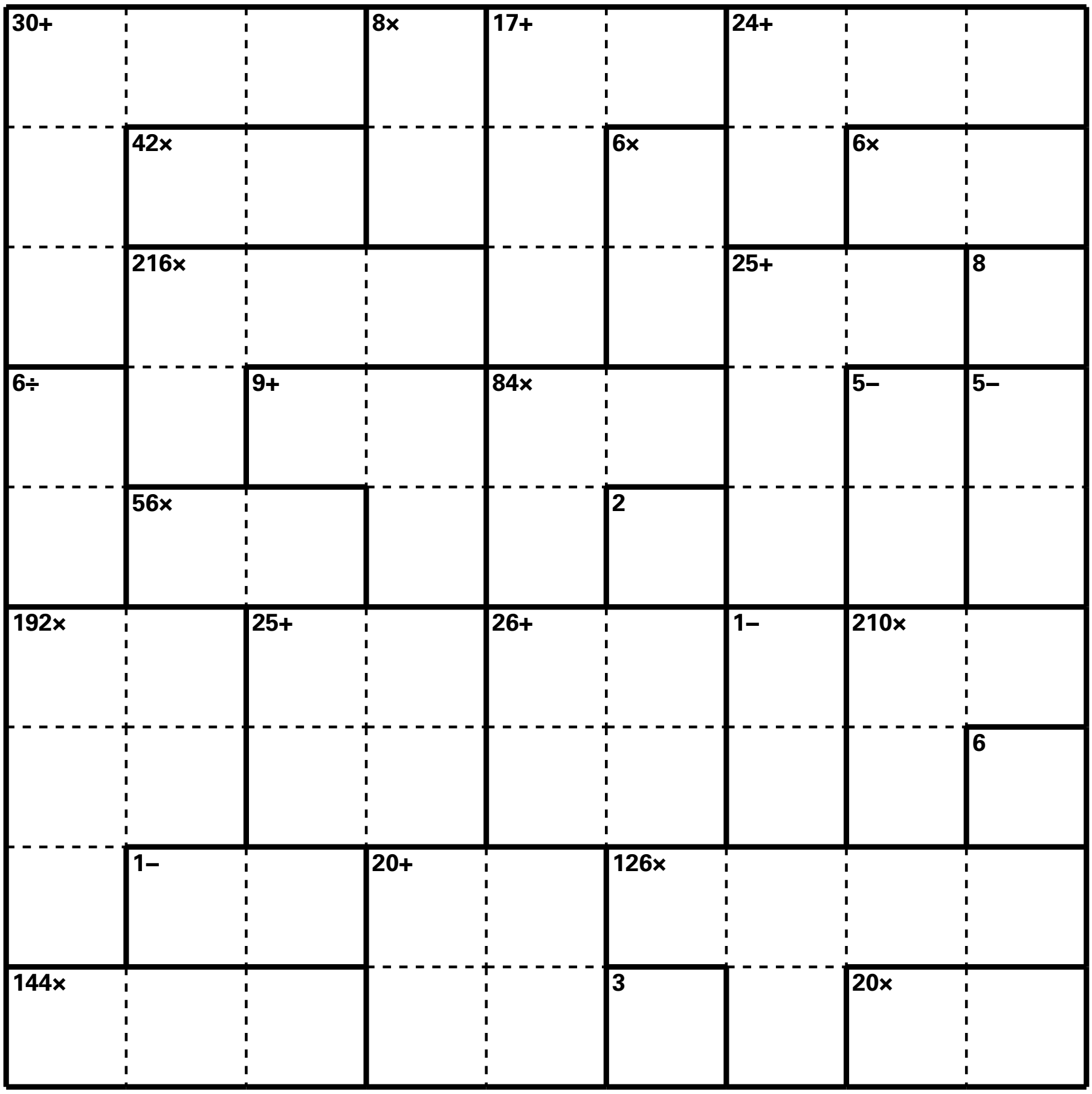
from page 11

7	5	4	2	3	8	6	9	1
9	7	6	4	5	1	8	2	3
5	3	2	9	1	6	4	7	8
6	4	3	1	2	7	5	8	9
1	8	7	5	6	2	9	3	4
4	2	1	8	9	5	3	6	7
3	1	9	7	8	4	2	5	6
8	6	5	3	4	9	7	1	2
2	9	8	6	7	3	1	4	5

FUNFUNFUNF

Undergrads in Grad Dorms

Solution, page 9



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Fun, Fun, Fun by Sally R. Stein

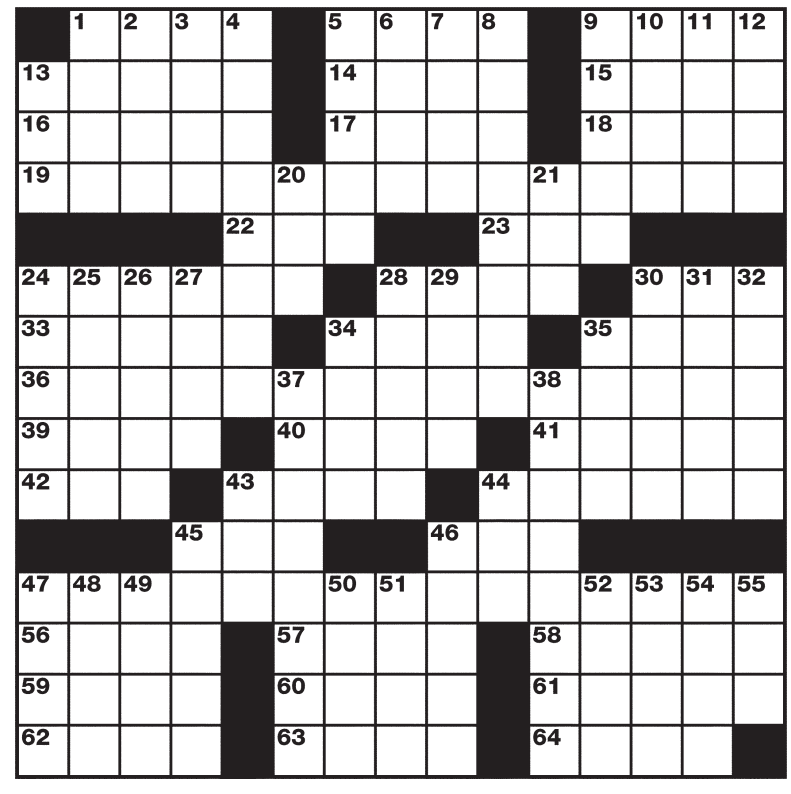
Solution, page 9

ACROSS

1 Poor, as an excuse
5 Typical kilt wearer
9 Did the backstroke
13 Competitor
14 In addition
15 Broad-based
16 Spanish friend
17 First-place medal
18 A great distance
19 Engrossed in fun
22 "Gloomy" guy
23 __ Angeles
24 Imply
28 Tiny tree branch
30 Doc for pets
33 Go on __ (try to lose weight)
34 Caribbean and Adriatic
35 Sandwich shop
36 Engrossed in fun
39 Cabbagelike veggie
40 Mom's sister
41 Temporary peace
42 Crafty
43 Small and weak
44 Pirates' treasure holders
45 Tiger or tabby
46 Buddy
47 Engrossed in fun
56 Noisy
57 Make a meal
58 Forbidden
59 Horse's hair
60 Diarist __ Frank
61 Office mail holder
62 Building for tools
63 Tripod's trio
64 "__ la vie!"

DOWN

1 Capital of Peru
2 Tel __, Israel
3 Biblical wise men
4 Stretch out
5 Heroic tales
6 Stop up
7 Capital of Norway
8 Task agenda
9 Attacks, as a fly
10 Internet hotspot service
11 Guy in Eden
12 Insignificant
13 Old-school cheer
20 Instinctive, as a feeling
21 Terrier or poodle
24 Eagles' relatives
25 Just perfect
26 Willy-__ (haphazardly)
27 Prefix for scope or vision
28 Very small
29 Bump on a toad
30 Neighbor of Earth
31 Vote into office
32 Ocean's motions
34 Leave speechless
35 Perilous
37 Of ships and sailors
38 Good at sports
43 Settle a debt
44 Is able to
45 Needing deciphering
46 Elbow jabs
47 Shade trees
48 Ark builder
49 When summer starts
50 Second to __ (the best)
51 Saucer-shaped instrument
52 Sensible
53 Tapers off
54 Burglar's haul
55 Supposedly 42 Across beast



FUN FUN FUN

SPORTS SPORTSSPORTSSPORTSS